

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-09

INFO OCT-01 IO-10 ISO-00 DEAE-00 CIAE-00 INR-07 JUSE-00

NSAE-00 SNM-02 SY-04 TRSE-00 USIA-06 NSC-05 OES-03

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FM AMEMBASSY KABUL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1345

INFO USMISSION GENEVA

C O N F I D E N T I A L KABUL 0883

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SNAR, AF

SUBJ: UNDP ACTIVITIES AND AFGHAN NARCOTICS CONTROL

REF: STATE 27085 (PARA 3)

1. IN PURSUING QUESTION OF HOW WELL UNDP IS MANAGING TO "SELL" ITS IDEA OF PILOT PROJECT EMBOFF LEARNED FROM UNDP RESREP BORTHWICH ON FEB 9 THAT SUCH POSSIBILITY HAS BEEN SUPERSEDED BY NEW REQUESTS FROM GOA AND NEW UNDP ATTITUDES. WHAT IS FORESEEN NOW IS MULTI-SECTOR ECONOMIC STUDY OF BADAKSHAN PROVINCE IN WHICH ISSUE OF POPPY CULTIVATION AND POSSIBILITY OF CROP SUBSTITUTION WILL BE TAKEN UP IN CONTEXT OF OVERALL PROVINCIAL DEVELOPMENT NEEDS.

2. IDEA OF BADAKSHAN SURVEY, WHICH IS SAID TO HAVE FIRM BACKING OF BOTH PRESIDENT DAOUD AND HIS BROTHER NAIM, HAS BEEN ACCEPTED IN PRINCIPLE BY UNDP KABUL. BORTHWICK SAID THAT A MR FRANCIS, PROFESSOR OF "MAN AND HIS ENVIRONMENT" AT WATERLOO UNIVERSITY IN ONTARIO, VISITED AFGHANISTAN IN DECEMBER TO LOOK INTO THE MATTER AND FOUND IT FEASIBLE EVEN THOUGH BAD WEATHER PRECLUDED HIS ACTUALLY GOING TO THE PROVINCE. (NOTE: A BRITISH SUBJECT HAD AT FIRST BEEN SELECTED TO COME TO KABUL FOR THIS BUT AFGHANS HAD NOT WANTED NATIONAL OF A "GREAT POWER" DEALING IN AFFAIRS OF

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BADAKSHAN.) BALL NOW SITS IN COURT OF MINISTER OF PLANNING,

WHO WILL OFFICIALLY REQUEST A UNITED NATIONS BADAKHSHAN SURVEY. BORTHWICK SAID UNDP IS PREPARED TO ACT FAVORABLY AS QUICKLY AS THIS FORMAL REQUEST IS MADE.

3. BORTHWICK FORESEES SURVEY COSTING SOME \$280,000 TO BE PERFORMED BY ONE OF UN TECHNICAL AGENCIES, MOST LIKELY FAO USING EXPERTS SENT FROM ROME. HE QUOTED AFGHAN ASSOCIATES AS SAYING PROJECTS GENERATED IN BADAKHSHAN COULD TOTAL HALF A BILLION DOLLARS, BUT THIS WILL NOT BE PART OF UNDP'S INTEREST OR "CHARTER". HE EXPECTS AFGHANS COULD GET PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION MONEY "FROM THE SAUDIS OR THE KUWAITIS OR PERHAPS IN SOME KIND OF CONSORTIUM.
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